

six sets of tracks that now cross Lakeshore Drive. The two sets of warning gates could be eliminated as all access to the crossings would be removed. The potential for a train/vehicle collision would be totally eliminated. The cost of the project will be split 80% Federal, 10% Village of North Fond du Lac, and 10% Wisconsin Central. This project has been requested along with Senator HERB KOHL (WI).

Account: Division I—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies—Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Military Veterans Museum Foundation, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 501 City Center, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Description of Request: The \$142,500 appropriation will go toward constructing a 45,000 square foot state of the art educational facility onto the existing "Fields of Honor" Military Veterans Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. It would be located on a 10 acre tract a half mile south of the Experimental Aircraft Association grounds (Wittman Regional Airport) overlooking Highway 41. It will contain displays of artifacts and memorabilia ranging from the Revolutionary War to the present; a multi-faceted Educational Center including a library, art gallery, 80 seat theater, an audio/visual center; administrative offices; and banquet rooms. It will also provide a unique gathering place for veterans and school groups, and become a showcase attraction for the area economy. A 5% match is required by the Military Veterans Museum Foundation, Inc. in order to receive the allocated money.

Account: Division I—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies—FTA/Buses and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 4802 Sheboygan Ave., Madison, WI 53702

Description of Request: The \$269,800 appropriation will be used for renovation of the Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Transit System's administrative/maintenance facility, shop equipment, maintenance vehicles, rehabilitation of its bus terminal, and yard equipment and maintenance.

IN RECOGNITION OF RISON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rison High School in Rison, Arkansas, for having been selected as one of the top high schools in America by U.S. News and World Report.

U.S. News and World Report honored Rison High School with its Silver Medal, one of only four schools in Arkansas to receive such recognition. In order to qualify for this honor, a high school must have a challenging college-ready curriculum, performed well on standardized tests, and provide support and programs that best serve students from all backgrounds, according to the report.

I am personally proud of Rison High School for working to achieve excellence in the classroom and helping to ensure their students have the means they need to succeed in this

21st century global marketplace. A stellar education requires not only good educators and administrators, but also support from the surrounding community. The Rison community, with its top-notch educators, active parents and involved local leadership, deserve much-needed praise for their unified efforts in providing Rison High School students with a world-class education, and I am pleased that U.S. News and World Report took notice.

Once again, I would like to congratulate Rison High School on this significant accomplishment and hope they will continue to strive for excellence in the years to come.

COACH LARRY HOLLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding leadership of Coach Larry Holley on the occasion of his induction into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame on February 7, 2009.

Larry Holley has been the head men's basketball coach at William Jewell College since the 1979–80 school year. He is truly among America's elite coaches, having won more than 750 games during his career and having received 14 Coach of the Year Awards. Coach Holley is ranked #3 among all NAIA coaches and #8 among active four-year college coaches. We are truly lucky to have him as a coach in Northwest Missouri.

True to his dedication, Coach Holley is a 1967 William Jewell graduate. He lettered in three different sports, was President of his fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, and was always a leader in his academics, school activities and his entire community in general.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Coach Larry Holley for his dedicated service to William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri. Larry's commitment to his team, the school and our community provide a strong example of the kind of leader we should all work to be. I know Larry's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking him for his commitment to others and wishing him congratulations on his induction to the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame and best wishes on many more years of happiness and success.

CONF. REPORT ON H.R. 1

SPEECH OF

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Stimulus bill we're voting on today is supposed to stimulate business and create jobs. However, one provision of the bill will do just the opposite. Title II of the Conference Report on H.R. 1, under the Office of Justice Programs, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance, provides \$2 billion in Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG). This funding is frequently used by local government agencies to fund pretrial

release for criminal defendants. The problem is that it's at taxpayer expense.

When a defendant is given a pre-trial release bond or personal recognizance bond, he is released on his own recognizance. For example, a bond may be set at \$10,000, and the defendant is released on his promise to return based on his "word" alone. If the defendant does not return, the sheriff has to go find him. The taxpayers are usually out \$10,000 because judgments are seldom obtained from defendants for failure to appear.

On the other hand, when a surety bond is used, the court enters into a contractual agreement with a bonding company. The defendant also makes an agreement with the bonding company, and pays the company 10%. Then the defendant is released with the understanding that the bonding company will pay the court \$10,000 if the defendant does not show up. Plus the bonding company is obligated to go and look for the defendant if the defendant does not appear in court. This form of free enterprise takes taxpayers off the financial hook.

Mr. Speaker, by allowing taxpayer money to go to pretrial release, the free enterprise system is greatly hindered. Instead of providing jobs, jobs are taken away from the private sector—namely the bonding and insurance community.

As a former judge, I found that defendants released on pretrial bonds seldom reappeared in court. With surety bonds, however, they were much more likely to show up because they had a vested financial interest in appearing. Plus, the bondsman looks for defendants who fail to appear.

During my 22 years as a criminal court judge, I saw how if left alone, the free enterprise system guarantees the best result. By allowing private enterprise to take part in the process, people are held accountable, and taxpayers are protected.

Mr. Speaker, this so-called "Stimulus" bill will not stimulate the economy with jobs. It will only further stifle the free enterprise system, take jobs, and will leave taxpayers with the bill. This is just one of many examples of flaws in this bill.

THE PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, tonight the President plans to address the American people in his first State of the Union. I can only hope that the President won't say what we're expecting: that the key to solvency is to lose a war and raise taxes. Congress just passed the Democrat's trillion dollar plus stimulus plan, with hundreds of billions of dollars in spending for special interest groups. Later this week we will consider the 2009 Appropriations Omnibus, which will include an 8% increase over last year's spending.

We will hear some good ideas that embrace the fiscally responsible bi-partisan change the president was elected on. I hope the Democrat leadership doesn't turn it into taxing and spending as usual. Madam Speaker, we all know that the way to a balanced budget is